**Shaman?**

One idea that kept cropping up was that the deceased had been a shaman, possibly dying of exposure when caught out in the open during a mystical retreat on the treacherous mountainside. Several facts opened the way for this particular speculation. The body was tattooed; his weapons (a roughly-hewn bow made of yew) resembled the dummy weapons associated with shamans in certain cultures; he had borne a pouch containing, among other things, fungi; and he was found with a copper-headed axe, which marked him out as an individual of high status. And, of course, the body had been found high in the mountains, suggesting that he had travelled to be closer to the gods.